



ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

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Electronic Bulletin Board Inaugurated in LPS! New Era in Depository Communications Beginning

Welcome to the FDLP/BBS!

Today, June 3, 1991, the Library Programs Service (LPS) inaugurates an enhanced communications service to the depository system: the **Federal Depository Library Program Bulletin Board System (FDLP/BBS)**. The FDLP/BBS is intended for use by depository libraries and the Depository Library Council. With the exception of the HERMES special interest group (SIG), the FDLP/BBS contains program operational information which is also available in other formats.

Depository librarians may access the board by dialing in at **202-275-7923**, using various telecommunications software packages. Telecommunications software at the user end should be set as follows: 2400, N, 8, 1. The speed setting may be set from 1200 to 9600 depending on the user-end software; parity must be set at None; Data bits at 8; and Stop bits at 1.

In order to access the board, depository librarians must enter their depository library number as their user identification number, and establish their own password during their initial session. The depository library number must be entered exactly in the form of four digits followed, when needed, by a letter. (For example, a user at the Louisiana State Library would enter 0231B.) **NOTE:** Users who have previously joined the board to access Project Hermes may continue to use their old user identification number, but they will be requested to re-register using their depository library number.

In their initial session, all participants will log on as guests with very limited capabilities, and may stay on the board for only one minute. Tony Ford, the Board's system operator (sysop), will make every effort to authorize new user accounts within two working days of the user's initial session. During the second session, LPS requests that users complete the registration information.

The FDLP/BBS will be available around the clock, seven days a week, except for a short period beginning at 3:00 a.m. Eastern time, when it is offline for system maintenance activities.

The sysop, Tony Ford, will provide user support Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Eastern time. The user support phone number is **202-275-1126**.

During this implementation and shake-down period, depository libraries' use of the FDLP/BBS is being authorized at two levels: General and Regional. General participants, (selective and regional depositories) may access most of the SIGs on the board, and may read or download at their discretion. E-Mail capability will be activated for general participants when LPS is satisfied with the basic performance and structure of the system. Regional depository libraries may also access the Regional SIG, and will have E-Mail capability immediately.

LPS is excited about inaugurating this new service to the depository library community, and hopes that the board will provide improved levels of timeliness and utility of program information. LPS considers the initial configuration of the FDLP/BBS to be a test, allowing us to learn bulletin board operations and to assess these new capabilities. LPS will make future changes and improvements based on our developing experience and on user feedback, subject of course to resource constraints.

LPS welcomes your comments about the FDLP/BBS. Your comments may be directed to:

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